

# BEADING BASICS COLOR

## YOUR GUIDE

*to combining  
COLORS  
like a pro!*

A spectrum of **all-new**  
**jewelry projects**  
inspired by

- FABRIC
- COLOR WHEEL
- NATURE
- DECORATIVE ART



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Fabric-inspired blues  
and greens are neighbors  
on the color wheel, p. 38

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<< ON THE COVER  
A two-strand gemstone necklace takes its color cues from a swatch of fabric, page 38. Necklace by Paulette Biedenbender.

photo by William Zutack

Choosing and combining colors – whether for your home, your wardrobe, or your jewelry – can be an intimidating experience. Not many of us have an innate knowledge of how colors work together, and even fewer of us have confidence in our ability to get it right. Fortunately, there are generally accepted guidelines for using and choosing colors, and they are surprisingly easy, and painless, to learn.

When we started working on *Beading Basics: Color*, our goal was to fill a special issue with projects that would delight our readers while teaching a series of enjoyable lessons on how to use color successfully. We challenged the editors at *Bead&Button* and *BeadStyle* magazines to come up with wonderful pieces of jewelry based on four sources of color inspiration: the color wheel, fabric, nature, and decorative art. It was an unconventional approach for us, but as a result, we learned something new. Now, you can do the same.

*Mindy*

Mindy Brooks, Editor  
*Bead&Button* magazine  
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Our thanks to Margie Deeb, artist and author of *The Beader's Guide to Color* (Watson-Guptill Publications, 2004) for her assistance and expertise. You can learn about Margie's beaded art, books, monthly column, and classes at [margiedeeb.com](http://margiedeeb.com).



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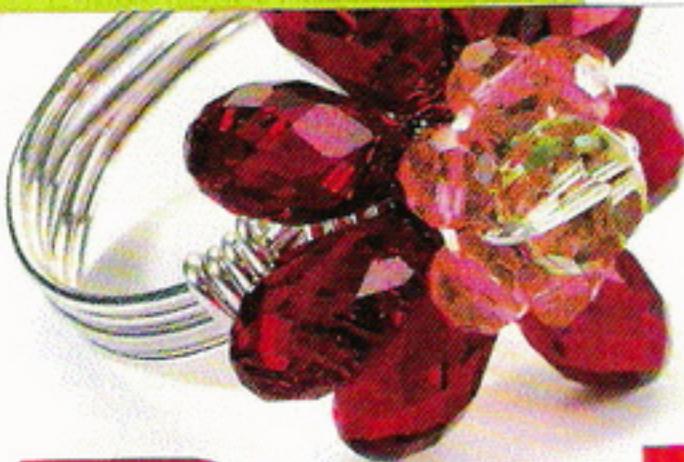
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# Red

Make dazzling rings using wire wraps to connect faceted crystals

Two shades of red, one dark and one light, create a rich background for a lone accent of yellow or violet — colors taken from a swatch of quilting fabric. Notice how the accent colors add life to the reds, even when used in small quantities. But color was not the only element this fabric inspired. To capture the mosaic-like surface of the fabric, I chose sparkling, faceted briolettes.

Gentle wire handling lends professional results to crystal rings.

*inspiration*

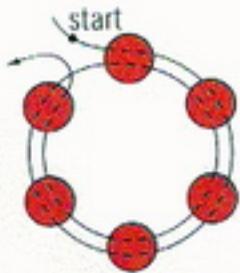
*fabric*



## materials

### one ring

- 6mm round Swarovski crystal
- 6-8 11 x 5 briolettes
- 6 4mm round Swarovski crystals
- 20 in. (51cm) 22-gauge sterling silver wire
- 8 in. (20cm) 28-gauge craft wire, silver
- Beadalon beading cord .006, white
- G-S Hypo cement
- twisted-wire needles
- chainnose pliers
- flatnose pliers (optional)
- diagonal wire cutters
- ring mandrel or other ring-sized cylinder
- metal file



**1** Using a twisted-wire needle and 8 in. (20cm) of beading cord, pick up six 4mm round crystals and sew through them again in the same direction, leaving a 3-in. (7.6cm) tail.



**2** Tie the tail and working thread together with a square knot (see Basics), and glue the knot. Sew through the next bead in the ring and pull the knot into the bead.

**3** Tie the working cord around the cord between beads with a half-hitch knot (Basics), and sew through the next bead. Repeat twice, then trim the cord. Repeat with the cord's tail end.



**4** String six to eight briolettes on an 8-in. piece of 28-gauge wire. Bend the beads into a circle, leaving a 3-in. tail on one end. Twist the long wire and the tail together to hold the beads in place.



**5** Bring the long wire over the briolette to the right, over the wire in the circle, and down behind the briolettes.



**6** Bring the wire up through the circle to the front.



**7** Wrap the wire around the circle again. Repeat steps 5–7 with each briolette to lock them all in place. Hold the briolettes with your nondominant hand as you wrap, and prevent the tension from getting tight enough to break a bead.



**9** Trim the wires and tuck them down between the briolettes with your pliers.



**10** Turn the briolettes over. Use the back of the cluster as the top surface of the petals.



**11** Center a 6mm round crystal on the 22-gauge wire. Use chainnose pliers to bend the wire as shown in the photo. Don't bend the wire against the crystal or the crystal may crack.



**12** To assemble the flower, string the 4mm crystals and the briolettes onto the wire ends and slide them against the 6mm crystal. Separate the wires behind the briolettes.



**13** Hold the flower in place on a ring mandrel or other cylinder. Make sure the band is slightly larger than the diameter of your finger. Wrap each end of the wire around the mandrel two times.



**14** Working with one end at a time, coil the wire under the flower with two or more wraps. These support the briolette petals. Make an additional wrap or two if needed, then remove the ring from the mandrel.



**15** Wrap one wire around the band three to four times. Use flatnose pliers to hold the band wires together as you wrap. Trim the wire on the inside of the band, pinch the end against the band with pliers, and file the end. Repeat on the other side.

**16** Slide the ring back on the mandrel to reshape the band. —C.P. \*



Beads intertwine gracefully  
in a five-strand necklace

# Red

*inspiration*

decorative art

Mixing reds can be tricky, so I chose red beads for my necklace based on the striking mix of colors found in this dramatic glass vase. In addition to reds, which can easily overpower most other colors, I used muted purples – red's neighbor on the color wheel – to temper its force. Sparks of gold from interspersed seed beads brighten the overall effect.

The beaded strands may appear delicate, but they are substantial enough to support a good-sized pendant.



**1** Determine the finished length of your necklace. (Mine is 17 in./43cm.) Add 6 in. (15cm) and cut five pieces of flexible beading wire to that length. Center the focal bead on one piece of wire.

**2** String 6° seed beads on each end until you are 1 in. (2.5cm) short of the desired length. Make sure the total number of 6°s is divisible by four. String an 11°, a crimp bead, and an 11° on each end. Tape the ends.

## materials

### necklace 17 in. (43cm)

- focal bead (Eclectica, 262-641-0910)
- 120 3 x 4mm drops, red
- 2 4mm round beads
- 3mm fire-polished beads
- 120 purple, color A
- 120 red, color B
- seed beads
- 4g size 6°, 1-2 colors
- 2g size 11°, gold
- 2 medium cones
- toggle clasp
- flexible beading wire, .014
- 10-in. (25cm) 20-gauge wire
- 10 crimp beads
- chainnose pliers
- roundnose pliers
- crimping pliers (optional)
- diagonal wire cutters



**3** Make a wrapped loop (see Basics) on one end of a 5-in. (13cm) piece of 20-gauge wire. Remove the tape from one end and string the wrapped loop. Go back through the 11°, the crimp bead, the 11°, and three 6°s. Crimp the crimp bead (Basics) and trim the tail.

**4** Repeat step 3 on the other end of the beading wire.



**5** To start the second strand, string an 11°, a crimp bead, and an 11°. Go through the wrapped loop made in step 3 and back through the 11°, the crimp bead, and the 11°. Crimp the crimp bead and trim the tail.



**6** Go through the first 6° on the finished strand. String: 11°, color A fire-polished bead, drop bead, A, 11°. Skip three 6°s on the finished strand and go through the fourth 6°.

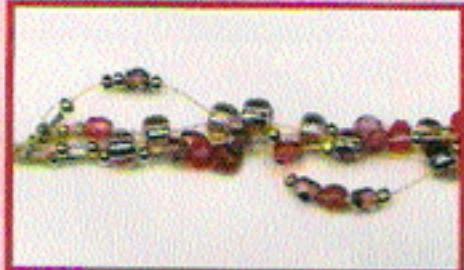
**7** Repeat this pattern until you reach the focal bead. Then go through the focal bead and continue to the other end. As you approach the end of this and subsequent strands, adjust your final bead count so you always exit the last 6°. String an 11°, a crimp bead, and an 11°. Go through the wrapped loop and back through the last three beads. Crimp the crimp bead and trim the tail.



**8** Start the third strand as in step 5. String: 11°, color B fire-polished bead, drop bead, B, 11°. Skip three 6°s on the finished strand and go through the fourth 6° as before. Work in this pattern and end as in step 7.

## editor's tip

To keep this necklace flexible, make sure you maintain a consistent tension among all five strands and allow some ease in each strand before you crimp it.



**9** Start the fourth strand as in step 5. String two 11°s, an A, and an 11°. Go through the third 6°. Skip three 6°s on the finished strand and go through the fourth 6° as before. Work in this pattern and end as in step 7.



**10** Start the fifth strand as in step 5. String: B, 11°, drop, 11°, and B. Go through the fourth 6°. Skip three 6°s on the finished strand and go through the fourth 6° as before. Work in this pattern and end as in step 7.



**11** String a cone on the wire at one end of the strands and pull the strands into the cone. String a round bead on the wire and make the first half of a wrapped loop. Slide the clasp into the loop, then finish the wrap. Repeat at the other end of the necklace. —CJL \*

# materials

## both projects

- chainnose and roundnose pliers

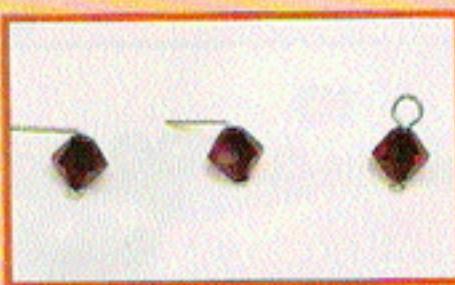
## necklace 17 in. (43cm)

- Swarovski crystals
- 5 5mm bicones, siam
- 22 4mm rounds, light siam
- 20 4mm bicones, hyacinth
- 20 4mm bicones, fire opal
- 28 4mm bicones, sun
- lobster claw clasp
- 45 in. (1.1m) 3.6mm long-and-short diamond chain ([tiograndle.com](http://tiograndle.com))
- 95 24-gauge head pins
- 6 6mm jump rings

## earrings

- Swarovski crystals, 12 each of the following:
- 5mm bicones, siam
- 4mm round, light siam
- 4mm bicones, hyacinth
- 4mm bicones, fire opal
- 4mm bicones, sun
- 5/6 in. (14cm) 2mm cable chain
- 60 24-gauge head pins
- 2 3mm jump ring
- 2 post earring findings with loop

Enticed by the hot colors of autumn mums, I designed a crystal necklace in a striking palette of red-to-gold crystals. By centering the darkest red and flanking it with progressively lighter shades of red, orange, and gold, the colors blend seamlessly. This gradient effect is intensified by its repetition on three strands. The earrings, long and dramatic, capture the same fiery appeal.



**1 necklace** • String a crystal on a head pin. Make a plain loop (see Basics) above the crystal. Repeat with all the remaining crystals.

Cut the chain into pieces as follows: three 1 in. (2.5cm), four 3 1/2 in. (8.9cm), one 6 in. (15cm), one 7 in. (18cm), one 8 in. (20cm).



**2** Open a jump ring (Basics) and attach the clasp to a 1-in. chain. Close the jump ring.



**3** Open a jump ring and attach the other end of the 1-in. chain to two of the 3 1/2-in. chains.

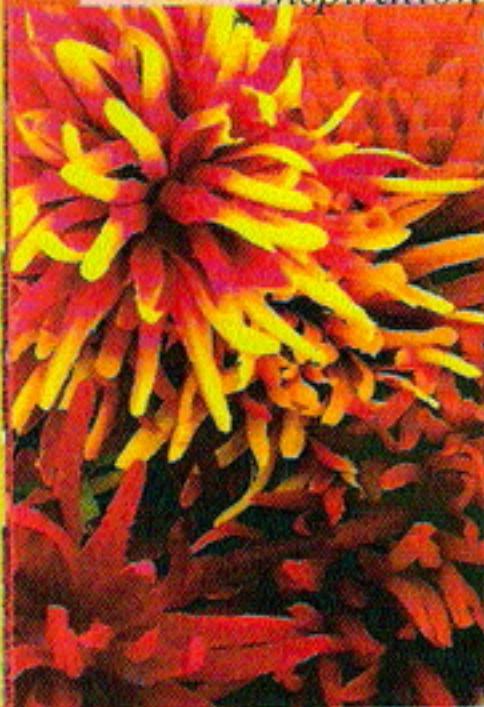


**4** Open a jump ring and connect the two 3 1/2-in. chains to the 6-in., 7-in., and 8-in. chains. Connect the chains in reverse order to finish the other end of the necklace. Then attach another 1-in. chain to the last jump ring.



**5** To attach the dangles, find the two large center links on the longest chain. Attach two siam-colored dangles to each link. Working from the center toward one end, attach two dangles to each large link in the following color combinations: siam and light siam, two light siam, two light siam, two hyacinth, two hyacinth, hyacinth and fire opal, two fire opal, two fire opal, two sun, two sun. To finish this end, attach one sun dangle to each of the next five large links. Repeat on the other side of the center dangles.

## inspiration





**6** Attach a siam dangle to the center large link of the middle chain. Working from the center toward one end, add one dangle per large link as follows: siam, light siam, light siam, hyacinth, hyacinth, fire opal, fire opal, sun dangle, sun dangle. Repeat on the other side of the center dangle.



**7** Attach a siam dangle to the center large link of the shortest chain. Working from the center toward one end, add one dangle per large link as follows: siam, light siam, light siam, hyacinth, fire opal, sun dangle. Repeat on other side of the center dangle.



**8** To embellish the 1-in. chain at the back of the necklace, attach three siam dangles to the end link. Then attach the remaining colors to subsequent links, working from darkest to lightest and adding two of each color on each side of each link.



**1** **earrings** • Make dangles as in step 1 of the necklace. Cut a 1-in. (2.5cm) and a 1 1/2-in. (3.8cm) piece of chain. Use jump rings to attach the 1-in. chain to the ball of the earring finding and the 1 1/2-in. chain to the ear nut.

**2** Attach three siam-colored dangles to the end link of the 1 1/2-in. chain. Then work as follows, attaching one dangle of each pair to each side of each chain link: two light siam, light siam and hyacinth, two hyacinth, two fire opal, fire opal and sun, two sun. Repeat on the 1-in. chain. Make a second earring to match the first. —A.N. \*

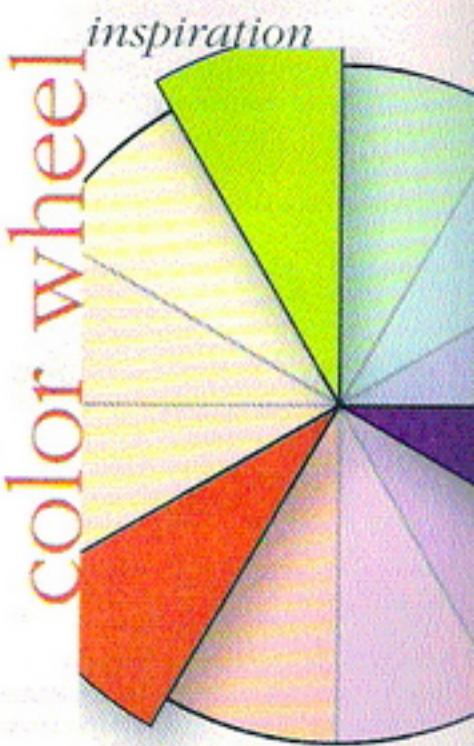


# Red Orange

Carnelian gemstones take center stage in a necklace, bracelet, and earring trio

With the red-orange of carnelian beads as my starting point, I first considered using its complement, blue-green, for a high-contrast color scheme. Equally bold, but definitely unexpected, was a color wheel relationship called a tertiary basic triad — tertiary because each color is a combination of primary and secondary colors, and a basic triad because red-orange, blue-violet, and yellow-green are evenly spaced on the color wheel.

A repeating pattern of carnelians and crystals adds a formal touch to an easy jewelry ensemble.





**1 necklace** • Determine the finished length of your necklace. (Mine is 17 in./43cm.) Add 6 in. (15cm) and cut a piece of beading wire to that length.

**2** Center the teardrop pendant on the wire.



**4** On one end, string a gold-filled bead, a crimp bead, a gold-filled bead, and a lobster claw clasp. String the same sequence on the other end, substituting a soldered jump ring for the clasp. Check the fit, and add or remove beads from each end if necessary. Crimp the crimp beads (see Basics) and trim the excess wire.



**3** On each side of the pendant, string: 2mm carnelian, 4mm crystal, 2mm, spacer, 8mm carnelian, spacer, 2mm, 6mm crystal, 2mm, spacer, 8mm, spacer. Repeat this pattern on each end until the necklace is 1 in. (2.5cm) short of the desired length.



**1 earrings** • Cut a 10-in. (25cm) piece of beading wire. String: spacer, 8mm carnelian, spacer, 6mm crystal, spacer, 8mm, spacer, 4mm crystal, spacer, 8mm, spacer, 6mm, spacer, 8mm, spacer. Center these beads on the wire.



**2** On each end, string: 3mm crystal, three 2mm carnelians, 3mm, three 2mm, 3mm, 2mm.



**3** String an 8mm and a crimp bead over both ends. Bring both ends around the earring's loop and back through the last beads strung. Crimp the crimp bead and trim the excess wire. Make a second earring to match the first.



## materials

### necklace 17 in. (43cm)

- 18 x 25mm teardrop pendant
- 22 8mm round carnelian beads
- 10 6mm round crystals, tanzanite
- 12 4mm round crystals, olivine AB
- 44 2mm round carnelian beads
- 44 4mm vermeil daisy spacers
- 4 2.5mm round gold-filled beads
- lobster claw clasp and soldered jump ring
- flexible beading wire, .012
- 2 crimp beads
- chainnose or crimping pliers
- diagonal wire cutters

### earrings

- 10 8mm round carnelian beads
- 4 6mm round crystals, tanzanite
- 2 4mm round crystals, olivine AB
- 12 3mm bicone crystals, olivine AB
- 28 2mm round carnelian beads
- 16 4mm vermeil daisy spacers
- flexible beading wire, .012
- 2 crimp beads
- pair of earring findings
- crimping pliers
- diagonal wire cutters

### bracelet 8 in. (20cm)

- 16-in. (41cm) strand or 35 8mm round carnelian beads
- 17 6mm round crystals, tanzanite
- 17 4mm crystals, olivine AB
- 72 4mm vermeil daisy spacers
- 6 2.5mm round gold-filled beads
- flexible beading wire, .012
- 6 crimp beads
- 3-strand box clasp
- chainnose or crimping pliers
- diagonal wire cutters

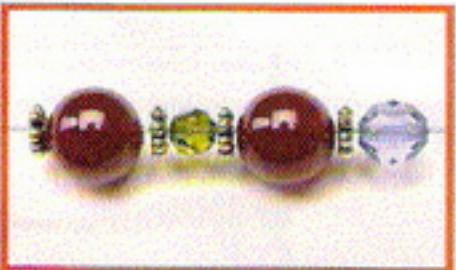


**1** bracelet • Determine the finished length of your bracelet. Add 5 in. (13cm) and cut three pieces of beading wire to that length. Tape one end of each wire.



**3** On the middle strand, string: spacer, 4mm, spacer, 8mm, spacer, 6mm, spacer, 8mm. Repeat until the strand is 1 in. (2.5cm) short of the desired length. Tape the end.

**2** On the bottom strand, string: spacer, 8mm carnelian, spacer, 6mm crystal, spacer, 8mm, spacer, 4mm crystal. Repeat until the strand is 1 in. (2.5cm) short of the desired length. Tape the end.



**4** On the top strand, string: spacer, 8mm, spacer, 4mm, spacer, 8mm, spacer, 6mm. Repeat until the strand is 1 in. (2.5cm) short of the desired length. Tape the end.



**5** Remove the tape on the middle strand. String a crimp bead, a gold-filled bead, and the center loop on the clasp to each respective end. Repeat with the bottom and top strands. Close the clasp to allow some ease on each strand. Check the fit, and add or remove beads if necessary. Crimp the crimp beads (see Basics) and trim the excess wire. - L.A. \*



# Orange

Use a classic wire-wrapping technique to make vibrant earrings

When you take your cue from colors sitting next to each other on the color wheel, your reward will be jewelry in gradations of harmonious colors. Here, hot-colored crystals in oranges and yellows surround a golden bicone. The solar effect is intensified by using larger crystals to create a luminous ring around the edge.

## materials

### earrings

- Swarovski bicone crystals
- 2 5mm, light topaz or citrine
- 10 4mm, fire opal
- 4 4mm, sun
- 4 4mm, hyacinth
- 12 3mm, hyacinth
- 5g size 11° seed beads, orange
- 28-gauge craft wire, gold
- pair of earring wires
- T-pin
- chainnose pliers
- diagonal wire cutters



These brilliant disks employ a centuries-old technique used to make three-dimensional beaded flowers. By changing the bead counts, a disk can be elongated into an oval, much like the traditional shape of a petal or leaf.



1 Cut a 2-ft. (61cm) length of wire. Make a small loop at one end, leaving a 6-in. (15cm) tail. Wrap the wire's long end (the working wire) around the tail so the loop and the wraps equal 1 in. (2.5cm). Do not cut the wire.



2 Holding your work with the loop at the bottom, string two 11° seed beads, a 5mm bicone crystal, and two 11°s on the tail. These are the only beads strung on the tail end.



3 String nine 11°s on the working wire.



**4** Curve the working wire around the crystal. Wrap it around the tail directly above the top two 11's, with the wrap going over the tail.



**5** String ten 11's, curve the wire around the crystal, and wrap it around the tail close to the beads. Continue adding rows of 11's, increasing the count by one or more beads in each row as necessary, until there are four rows on each side of the crystal. Straighten the tail after every wrap.



**6** For the outer row, string: six 11's, 3mm bicone, three 11's, 3mm bicone, 11', 3mm bicone, 4mm hyacinth bicone, two 4mm fire opal bicones, one 4mm sun bicone. Wrap the working wire around the tail as before. Then string this sequence in reverse to finish the other side.



**7** Wrap the working wire around the loop end of the tail close to the beads, and cut the working wire about  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. (6mm) from the last wrap. Press the cut end against the beads.



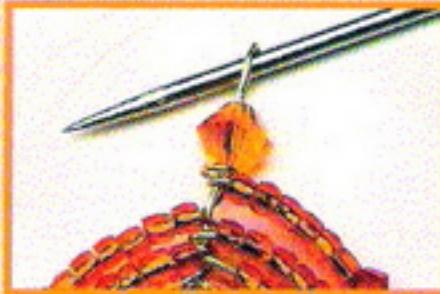
**8** Fold the straight end of the tail to the back of the work and cut it.



**9** Turn your work so the loop is at the top. Pinch the loop closed tightly with chainnose pliers.



**10** String a fire opal bicone over the closed loop.



**11** Open the loop above the bicone by inserting a T-pin.

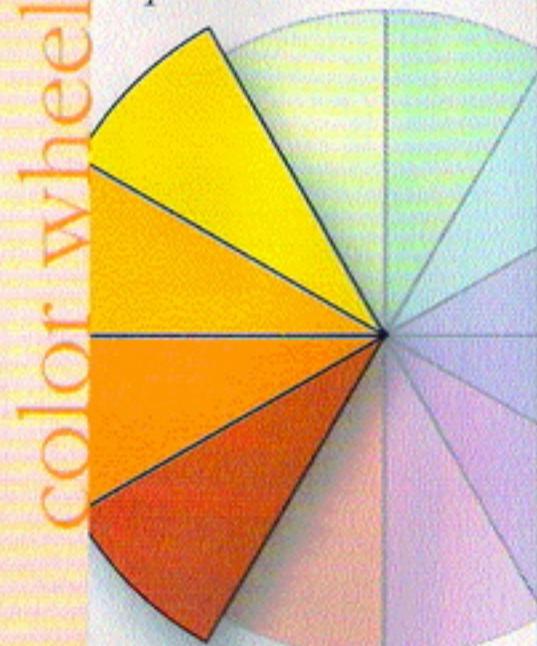


**12** Use chainnose pliers to twist the loop so the opening faces front to back.



**13** Open the loop on an earring wire (see Basics) and attach the earring. Make a second earring to match the first.  
—D.N. \*

*inspiration*  
color wheel





# Orange

*inspiration*



**Create two  
bracelets using  
one color palette  
in different  
proportions**

The Gee's Bend quilt photo  
is from the collection of  
the Tinwood Alliance.  
Photo by Steve Pitkin.

Because of its high intensity, bright orange is at its most forceful when teamed up with black, but adding other colors to the mix tones down the drama. This quilt, one of the remarkable pieces from the Gee's Bend collection, inspired my pairing of red-orange carnelian stones with melon and amber seed beads and peach pearls. Hesitant at first about adding green, I took the plunge, using it to achieve an unusual and energetic color scheme in the two-strand bracelet, above right.

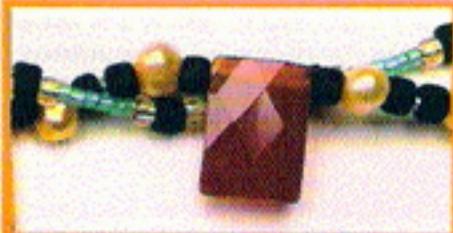


### 1 two-strand bracelet •

Determine the finished length of your bracelet, add 5 in. (13cm), and cut two pieces of beading wire to that length. On one strand, string a crimp bead, an 8° seed bead, and the clasp. Go back through the beads and tighten the wire. Crimp the crimp bead (see Basics) and trim the excess wire.



4 Remove the tape from the first strand and string a crimp bead, an 8°, and a soldered jump ring. Go back through the beads and tighten the wire. Check the fit, and add or remove beads if necessary. Crimp the crimp bead.



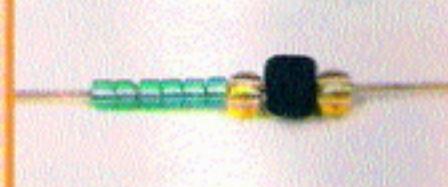
5 Wrap the second strand around the first. Add or remove beads from the second strand, if necessary.



6 Remove the tape from the second strand and string a crimp bead, an 8°, and the jump ring. Go back through the beads and tighten the wire. Crimp the crimp bead and trim the excess wire.



2 String: top-drilled rectangle, 6°, pearl, 6°, cylinder bead, 6°, pearl, 6°. Repeat the pattern until the bracelet is the desired length. Tape the end.



3 Attach the remaining wire to the clasp as in step 1. String six cylinder beads, an 8°, a 6°, and an 8° on the wire. Repeat the pattern until the bracelet is the desired length. Tape the end.

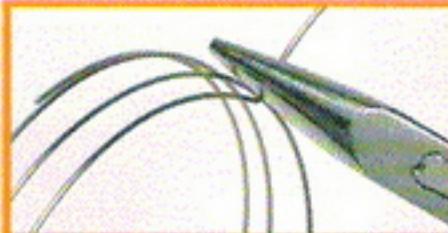
## materials

### 2-strand bracelet 7 in. (18cm)

- 5-7 10 x 8mm faceted top-drilled rectangle camelion beads
- 10-15 5-6mm potato-shaped pearls, peach
- 30-40 size 6° seed beads, matte black
- 24-28 size 8° seed beads, amber
- 2g Japanese cylinder beads, mint green
- lobster claw clasp
- flexible beading wire, .014 or .015
- 4 crimp beads
- 6mm soldered jump ring
- chainnose pliers
- diagonal wire cutters
- crimping pliers (optional)

### memory wire bracelet 4 coils

- 10 x 8mm faceted rectangle camelion pendant
- 2 8-in. (20cm) strands petal-shaped beads, black
- 20-24 5-6mm potato-shaped pearls, peach
- 10-12 6mm faceted round beads, orange
- 1g size 8° seed beads, melon
- memory wire, bracelet diameter
- chainnose and roundnose pliers
- heavy-duty wire cutters (optional)



### 1 memory wire bracelet •

Separate four coils of memory wire from the stack of coils. Instead of cutting the wire, hold it with chainnose pliers and bend it back and forth at one place until the wire breaks. Don't use jewelry-weight wire cutters on memory wire; the wire will ruin the blades.



2 Using roundnose pliers, make a small loop on one end of the memory wire.



3 String: eight petal-shaped beads, pearl, 8° seed bead, faceted round 8°, pearl. Repeat the pattern until you are 2 in. (5cm) from the end of the memory wire.



4 To finish the bracelet, string: eight petal-shaped beads, pearl, pendant, pearl, petal-shaped bead. Make sure there are no spaces between beads. Make a small loop at the end of the wire. — C.J. \*

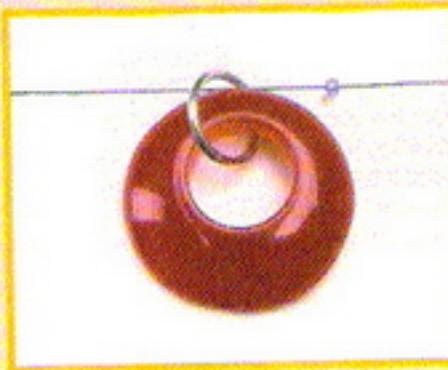


Create sweet-as-candy necklaces, bracelet, and earrings with vibrant Lucite beads

# Orange Yellow

*inspiration*

fabric



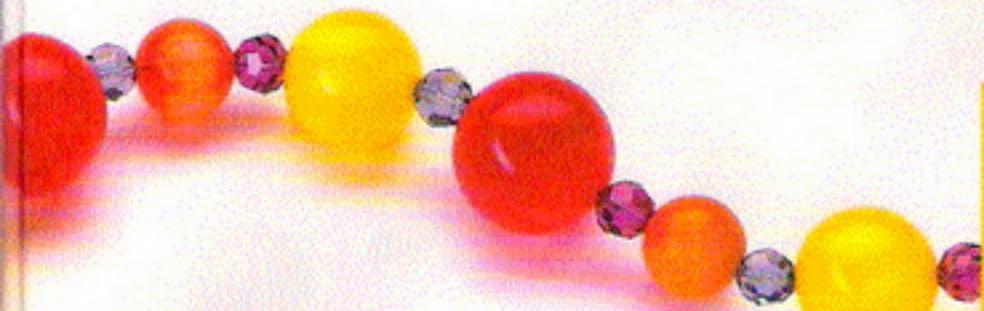
## 1 hoop-pendant necklace •

1 Determine the finished length of your necklace. (Mine is 16½ in./41.9cm.) Add 6 in. (15cm) and cut a piece of beading wire to that length. Open a 9–10mm jump ring (see Basics). String the hoop bead and close the jump ring. Center the pendant and an 11° seed bead on the wire.



## 2

On each end of the beading wire, string a pattern of Lucite beads alternating with crystals. Repeat until the necklace is 1 in. (2.5cm) short of the desired length.



The colors of this retro fabric are as fun and playful as its cartoonlike graphics; content and color are well matched. The jewelry follows suit: brightly colored Lucite beads create casual pieces perfect for spring and summer soirees. In each piece, the predominantly red-orange-yellow spectrum has a complementary color thrown in: purple to complement yellow and green for red. Whenever you want to add a splash of contrast to a palette with a dominant color scheme, choose its complement.

**One pre-packaged assortment of Lucite contained enough beads in a variety of styles and colors to make the necklaces, bracelet, and earrings shown here.**



### editor's tip

Like all vintage beads, Lucite beads may not always be available in every size, shape, and color. Make sure you have enough beads to finish your projects before you start.

**3** On one end, string a 3mm round spacer, a crimp bead, a spacer, and the clasp. Go back through the beads just strung plus one more and tighten the wire. Repeat at the other end, substituting a jump ring for the clasp. Check the fit, and add or remove an equal number of beads from each end if necessary. Crimp the crimp beads (Basics) and trim the excess wire.

## materials

### hoop-pendant necklace 16½ in. (41.9cm)

- Lucite beads (The Beadin' Path, 877-922-3237, beadinpath.com)
- 27mm hoop beads
- 6-10 16mm round beads
- 6-10 14mm round beads
- 8-12 10mm round beads, in 2 colors or finishes
- 22-34 6mm round crystals, in 2 colors
- size 11" seed bead
- lobster claw clasp with soldered jump ring
- flexible beading wire, .014 or .015
- 4 3mm round spacers
- 9-10mm (inside diameter) 16-gauge jump ring
- 2 crimp beads
- chainnose and roundnose pliers
- crimping pliers (optional)
- diagonal wire cutters

### cherry-and-citrus necklace 15½ in. (39.4cm)

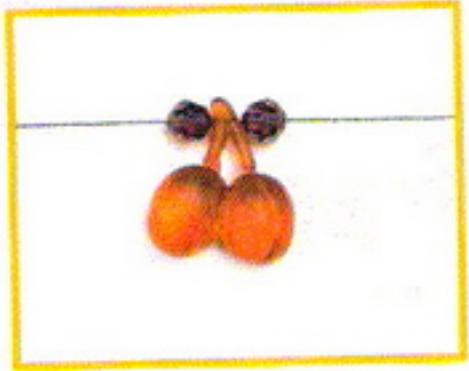
- Lucite beads (The Beadin' Path)
- 7-9 19 x 23mm cherry beads
- 4-6 14mm round beads
- 4-6 12 x 16mm oval beads
- 14-20 10mm round beads, in 2 colors or finishes
- 14-18 6mm round crystals, in 2 colors
- lobster claw clasp with soldered jump ring
- flexible beading wire, .014 or .015
- 4 3mm round spacers
- 2 crimp beads
- chainnose or crimping pliers
- diagonal wire cutters

### bracelet 7 in. (18cm)

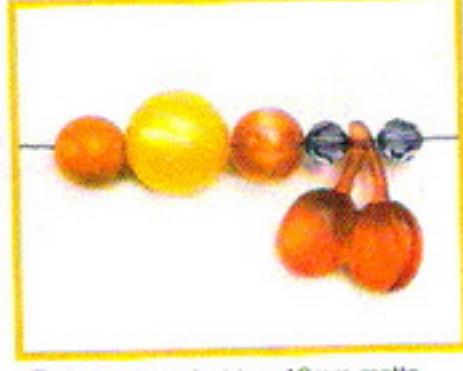
- Lucite beads (The Beadin' Path)
- 5-8 16mm round beads
- 10-15 14mm round beads, in 2 colors
- 3-6 12 x 16mm oval beads
- 5-10 10mm round beads, in 2 colors
- 5-10 8 x 14mm fruit beads
- 6-8 8mm round crystals
- 6-8 6mm round crystals
- lobster claw clasp with 4-5mm jump ring
- 8-10 in. (20-25cm) cable chain, 4mm links
- 35-55 1½-in. (3.8cm) 20-gauge head pins
- 5-10 4mm 18-gauge jump rings
- chainnose and roundnose pliers
- diagonal wire cutters

### earrings

- Lucite beads (The Beadin' Path)
- 2 27mm hoop beads
- 2 10mm round beads
- 2 6mm round crystals
- 4 1½-in. head pins or 6 in. (15cm) 22-gauge sterling silver wire, half-hard
- 2 9-10mm (inside diameter) 16-gauge jump rings
- pair of earring wires
- chainnose and roundnose pliers
- diagonal wire cutters



**1** **cherry-and-citrus necklace** • Determine the finished length of your necklace. (Mine is 15½ in./39.4cm.) Add 6 in. (15cm) and cut a piece of beading wire to that length. Center a cherry bead between two crystals on the wire.



**2** On each end, string: 10mm matte, 14mm, 10mm glossy, crystal, cherry, crystal. (Use crystals in a different color from those in step 1.)



**3** On each end, string: 10mm matte, oval, 10mm glossy, crystal, cherry, crystal. (String the same color crystals as in step 1.)

Repeat steps 2 and 3 on each end until the necklace is 1 in. (2.5cm) short of the desired length. Finish as in step 3 of the hoop-pendant necklace.



**1 bracelet** • String each Lucite bead and crystal on a head pin. Make a plain loop (see Basics) above each bead. String each fruit bead on a jump ring. Make a total of 40–65 dangles. (The size of the chain links and the finished bracelet length determine how many dangles you need.)



**2** Determine the finished length of your bracelet, add  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. (3.8cm) and cut a piece of chain to that length.

**3** Open a jump ring or a dangle's loop. Attach one dangle per link until the bracelet is the desired length. You should have about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. of chain without dangles.



**4** Use a jump ring to attach the clasp to the end link at the end with dangles. Check the fit, and add or remove dangles if necessary. Trim the chain at the other end so you have 1 in. (2.5cm) without beads for an extender. Attach one or two dangles to the end link.



**1 earrings** • Open a 9–10mm jump ring. Attach a hoop bead and close the jump ring.



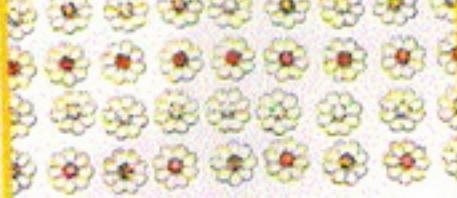
**2** Trim the heads from two  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -in. (3.8cm) head pins or cut two pieces of 22-gauge wire to that length. On one wire, string a 10mm bead and make a plain loop at each end.

**3** On the other wire, string a crystal and make a plain loop at each end. Make these loops perpendicular to each other.

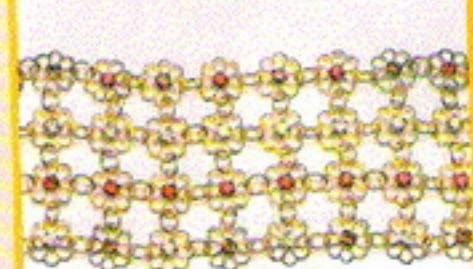


**4** Open each loop on the 10mm-bead unit. Attach one loop to the jump ring and the other to a crystal unit's loop. Close the loops.

**5** Open the loop on an earring wire. String the crystal unit's top loop and close the earring wire's loop. Make a second earring to match the first. – N.F. \*



**1 bracelet** • Arrange crystal flower charms so you have 14 across by four deep (for a 7-in./18cm bracelet). Increase or decrease the number of flowers in multiples of four to adjust the length.



**4** Repeat step 3 until you have connected all the flowers.



**2** Open three jump rings (see Basics) and connect a column of four flowers. Close the jump rings. Repeat with the remaining columns.



**3** Use jump rings to connect the flowers in one column to the flowers beside them in the next column.

## materials

### bracelet 7 in. (18cm)

- crystal flower charms (Rings & Things, rings-things.com)
  - 21 9mm, hyacinth
  - 21 9mm, jonquil
  - 14 9mm, topaz
- 4-strand slide clasp
- 106 4mm oval jump rings
- 2 pairs chainnose pliers

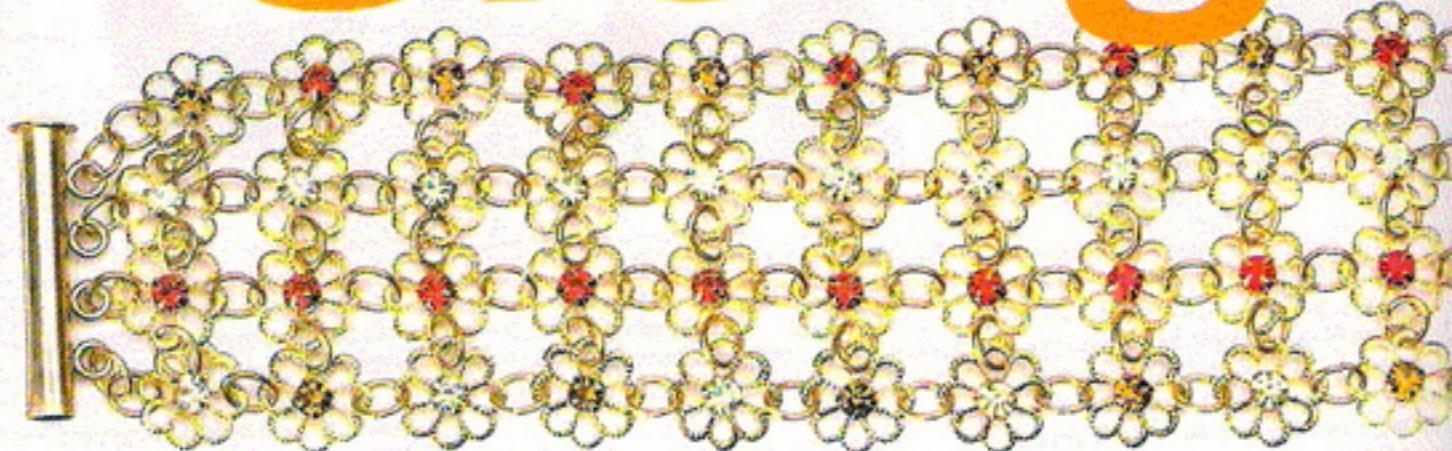
### earrings

- crystal flower charms
  - 8 9mm, hyacinth
  - 8 9mm, jonquil
  - 4 9mm, topaz
- 20 4mm oval jump rings
- pair of earring wires
- 2 pairs of chainnose pliers



**5** Attach each of the two middle flowers to their respective loops on the slide clasp with one jump ring each. Attach the outer flowers to the outer loops with two jump rings each. Repeat at the other end. (Be sure the second half of the clasp is in the correct orientation before you attach it.)

# Orange



Link delicate crystal charms with jump rings for a flowery c



**1** **earrings** • Open three jump rings and connect four crystal flower charms. Close the jump rings. Repeat.



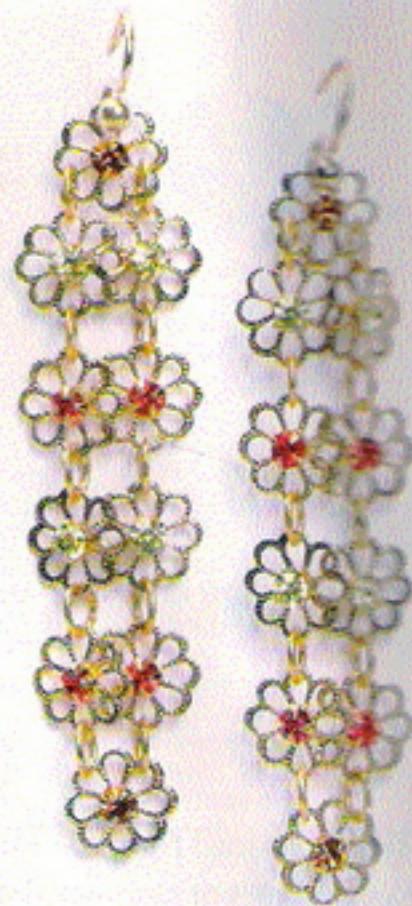
**2** Attach a jump ring to the top of each flower at the top of the columns. Connect these two jump rings to an unattached flower, as shown. Repeat with the flowers at the bottom of the columns.



**3** Open the loop on an earring wire and attach it to the top flower's center loop. Close the earring wire's loop. Make a second earring to match the first. — J.K. \*

#### editor's tip

Using charms and other interesting components in your jewelry making opens up endless avenues for design. Experiment with materials as well as colors.



Columns of linked charms form a light-hearted bracelet and earring ensemble.

# Yellow



and earrings

You never know where inspiration lurks... You might find it in something as mundane as a set of retro drink coasters. This sixties-era floral motif pairs ambers and deep oranges in a surprisingly fresh combination. The colors are side by side on the color wheel, which makes for a harmonious and pleasing design.

*inspiration*

decorative art





seven-drop dangle



double dangle



eight-drop dangle



long dangle

# Yellow

Taking its lead from the range of attention-grabbing yellows found in a bouquet of summer daisies – ambers to orange-yellows to pure yellow – this color scheme grew into a compelling analogous palette. To translate the cheerful energy of daisies into your jewelry, suspend drops in sunshine colors from a variety of gold earring findings.

**Tiny drop beads build a wardrobe of playful earrings**



**1 seven-drop dangle**

Thread a needle on each end of a 14-in. (36cm) piece of C-lon. Center one yellow drop bead on the thread. On both needles, pick up a brown and a green 11° seed bead.

**2** On one needle, pick up a matte yellow drop and a green 11°. On the other needle, pick up a brown 11° and a matte yellow drop.



**3** Using both needles, pick

up a brown 11°, a yellow drop, and a green 11°.

**4** Repeat step 2.

**5** Repeat step 3, then pick up a brown 11° and a green 11°.



**6** Pick up a soldered jump

ring on one needle. Tie the threads together with a surgeon's knot (see Basics). Glue the knot. Take both threads through several 11°s and trim the tails. Connect the jump ring to an earring wire. Make a second earring to match the first.



**1 eight-drop dangle**

Make a seven-drop dangle as described at left, substituting orange-yellow drops for the yellow drops. Omit the last three 11°s; instead, pick up a matte yellow drop. Make a second earring to match the first.

# materials

## all projects

- C-Ion beading thread
- beading needles, size #12
- G-S Hypo Cement or clear nail polish

## seven-drop dangle

- 6 6mm drop beads, yellow
- 8 6mm matte drop beads, yellow
- size 11° seed beads
- 12 brown
- 12 green
- pair of decorative earring wires (Rishashay, 800-517-3311, rishashay.com)
- 2 3mm soldered jump rings

## eight-drop dangle

- 6 6mm drop beads, orange-yellow
- 10 6mm drop beads, matte yellow
- size 11° seed beads
- 8 brown
- 10 green
- pair of decorative earring wires (Rishashay)
- 2 3mm soldered jump rings

## long dangle

- 6 6mm drop beads, orange-yellow
- 6 6mm drop beads, yellow
- 12 6mm drop beads, matte yellow
- size 11° seed beads
- 16 brown
- 16 green
- pair of earring wires
- 2 26mm round drop findings (Fire Mountain Gems, 800-355-2137, firemountaingems.com)
- 2 3mm soldered jump rings
- 2 3mm jump rings
- 2 pairs of chainnose pliers, or chainnose and bentnose pliers

## double dangle

- 8 6mm drop beads, yellow
- 16 6mm drop beads, matte yellow
- size 11° seed beads
- 22 brown
- 22 green
- pair of earring wires
- 2 3mm soldered jump rings



**1 long dangle** • Repeat steps 1–5 of the seven-drop dangle, substituting orange-yellow drops for the first and third yellow drops. Omit the last two 11° seed beads in step 5.

**2** Repeat step 2 of the seven-drop dangle. On both needles, pick up: brown 11°, yellow drop, orange-yellow drop, yellow drop, green 11°, brown 11°, green 11°. Attach a soldered jump ring and secure the thread, as in step 6.

**3** Open a 3mm jump ring (Basics). Attach the dangle's soldered jump ring to the drop finding's lower loop. Close the jump ring. Slide the finding's top loop onto an earring wire. Make a second earring to match the first.



**1 double dangle** • Repeat steps 1–5 of the seven-drop dangle.

**2** Center a new 14-in. (36cm) piece of C-Ion in the bottom dangle and repeat step 1 of the seven-drop dangle.

**3** Repeat step 2 of the seven-drop dangle. On both needles, pick up a brown 11°, go through the next yellow drop on the first dangle, and pick up a green 11°.

**4** Repeat step 3, omitting the last 11°. Finish the dangle as in step 6 of the seven-drop dangle. —D.J. \*

Long and short earrings drenched in yellows and oranges dangle from gold earring wires. Note the subtle greens and browns in the daisies at right that also show up in the seed beads.

nature

inspiration



# Yellow

Twisted strands of colorful seed beads surround a single strand of lemon quartz and garnet drops.



**1** Determine the finished length of the inner group of seed bead strands. (Mine are 16½ in./41.9cm before twisting.) Double this number, add 8 in. (20cm), and cut two pieces of nylon cord to this length.

**2** Center a seed bead on one strand. Tie a square knot (see Basics) around the bead. Hold the two cut ends together and string a bead tip with the hook end toward the seed bead. Pull on the cords until the seed bead sits inside the bead tip.



**3** Close the bead tip with chainnose pliers.



**4** Thread a needle on one cord and string a random mix of seed beads, adding accent beads as desired. When the strand is the desired length, tape the end to secure the beads.

Repeat with the other cord. Add or remove beads as necessary until the strands are the same length.



**5** Remove the tape and string a bead tip, hook end pointing away from the beads, over both cut ends. String a seed bead on one cord and slide it into the bead tip. Tie several square knots around the bead, glue the knots, and close the bead tip. Trim the excess cord.

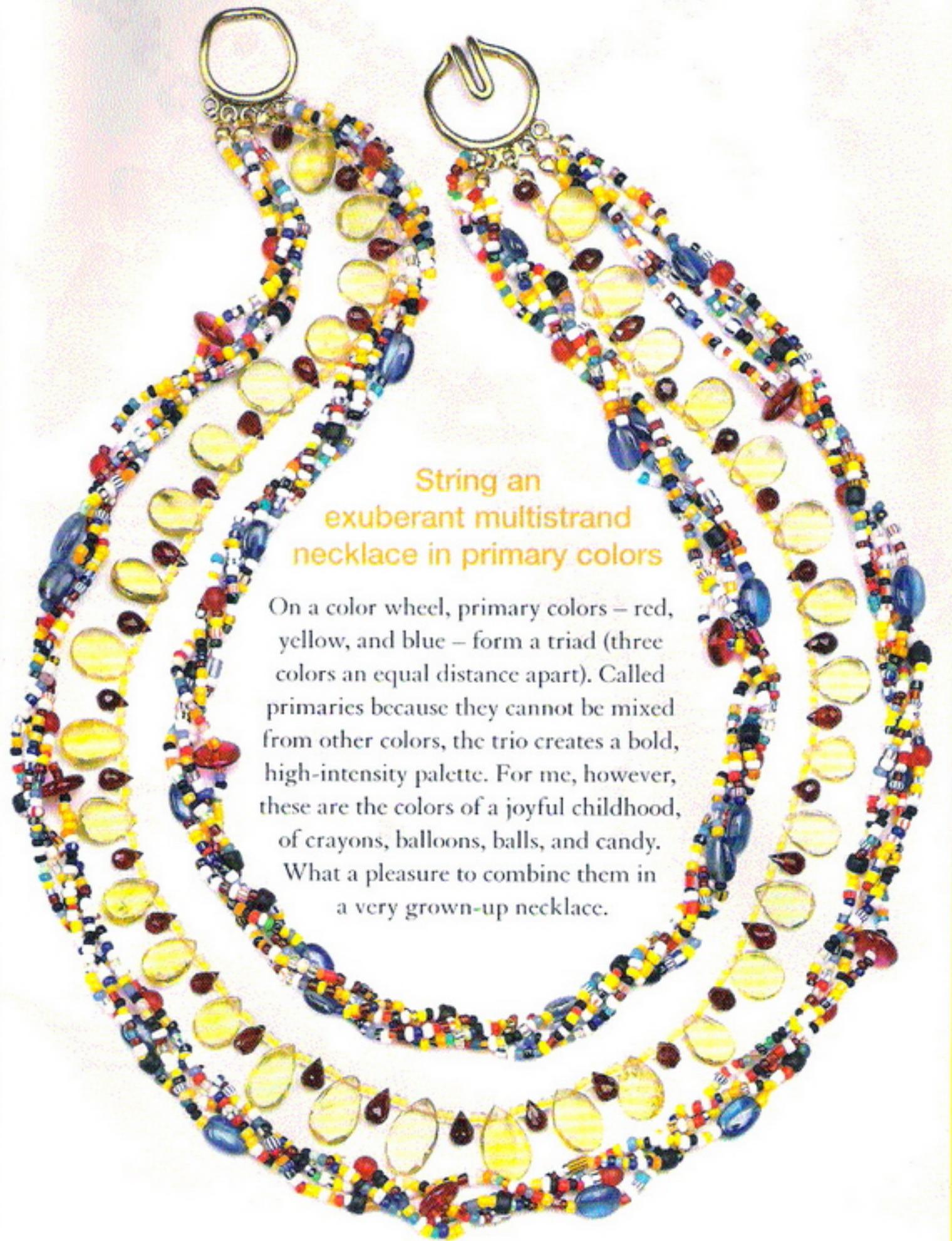
**6** Repeat steps 2–5 to prepare a second set of beaded strands the same length as the first set.



**7** Using roundnose pliers, gently bend one bead tip's hook into a circle. Attach it to the clasp's top loop and close the hook. Repeat with the bead tip on the second set of beaded strands, working in the clasp's next loop.

**8** Hold the ends of the strands in each hand. Twist the strands together six or seven times, or as required to reach your desired length. (My twisted strands are 16 in./41cm.) Attach the bead tips to the remaining clasp half, as in step 7. Make sure the clasp halves line up correctly before you attach the bead tips.





String an  
exuberant multistrand  
necklace in primary colors

On a color wheel, primary colors – red, yellow, and blue – form a triad (three colors an equal distance apart). Called primaries because they cannot be mixed from other colors, the trio creates a bold, high-intensity palette. For me, however, these are the colors of a joyful childhood, of crayons, balloons, balls, and candy. What a pleasure to combine them in a very grown-up necklace.



**9** Cut a piece of beading wire 6 in. (15cm) longer than your beaded strands. String a crimp bead and a bead tip, hook end toward the crimp bead, on the end of the beading wire. Crimp the crimp bead (Basics) and test it to make sure it holds. Trim the wire close to the crimp bead. Slide the crimp bead into the bead tip and close the bead tip as before.

**10** String an alternating pattern of teardrops and briollettes separated by pairs of yellow 11° seed beads. For the gemstone strand to fall slightly below the seed bead strands, string it about  $\frac{1}{8}$  in. (1.3cm) longer. (Mine is 16 $\frac{1}{8}$  in.)

**11** When you reach the desired length, string a bead tip, hook end pointing away from the gemstones, and a crimp bead. Slide the crimp bead into the bead tip and close up any spaces between beads. Crimp the crimp bead securely, trim the excess wire, and close the bead tip.



## materials

### multistrand necklace

#### 16 in. (41cm)

- 16-in. (41cm) strand lemon quartz, teardrops or briollettes
- 16-in. strand garnet briollettes
- assorted 4-8mm glass accent beads
- 40g seed beads in yellow, red, blue, black, and white or 2 30g tubes mixed Czech seed beads (Knot Just Beads, 414-771-8360)
- 5g size 11° seed beads, light yellow
- 5-strand clasp (Ashes to Beauty Adornments, 505-867-4244)
- Hastings bonded nylon cord, 1/0x (Shor International Corp., 914-667-1100, shorinternational.com)
- flexible beading wire, .010-.012
- beading needles, #10
- 10 bead tips
- 2 crimp beads
- G-S Hypo Cement
- chainnose and roundnose pliers
- crimping pliers
- diagonal wire cutters



**12** Attach the bead tips to the center clasp loops, as in step 7.

**13** For the last set of beaded strands, repeat steps 1-8, using cords that are long enough to drape about  $\frac{1}{8}$  in. below the gemstone strand when twisted. (Mine are 19 in./48cm before twisting.) Attach the bead tips to the remaining clasp loops. — M.B. \*



# Yellow Green

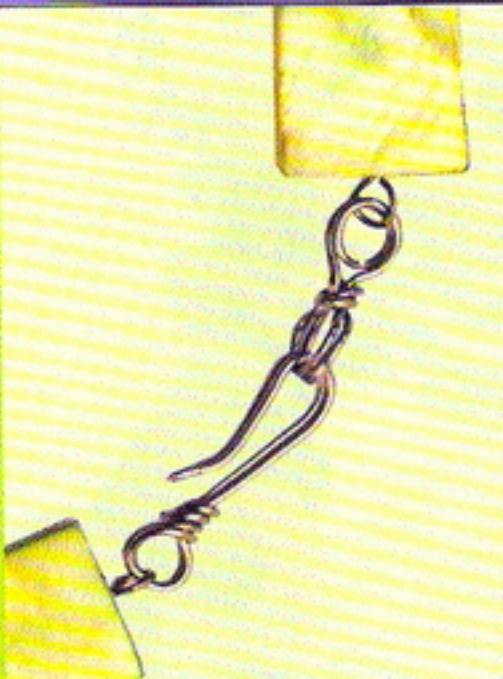
Link round and square mother-of-pearl beads in a necklace that features a custom clasp

At first glance, the muted tones of autumn pears on a bolt of cotton seemed an unlikely candidate to inspire a piece of jewelry. Yet, the striated yellow-greens on mother-of-pearl squares looked remarkably similar to the pears' shading. For accents, I chose leaf beads and mosaic beads in the soft browns of the pears' stems and shadows. The result is a necklace in warm, low-intensity colors, an ideal palette for tailored fall clothing.

Gunmetal-colored wire supports an alternating pattern of square green and faceted golden-brown beads. Glass leaves dangle from an unusual double loop.

inspiration  
fabric





**3** Make a wrapped loop (see Basics) using both cut ends of the wires as if they were one. Trim the wires close to the wraps.



**6** Wrap each wire tail around one jaw of the roundnose pliers to form a second pair of loops. Be sure to leave a small space between the two loops.



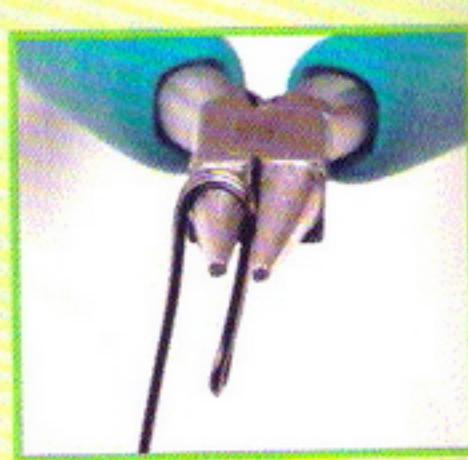
**1 clasp** • To make the clasp's hook, cut a 6-in. (15cm) piece of 20-gauge wire. Fold the wire in half, making the fold as tight as possible. Smooth the wire by pulling it through nylon jaw pliers (optional).



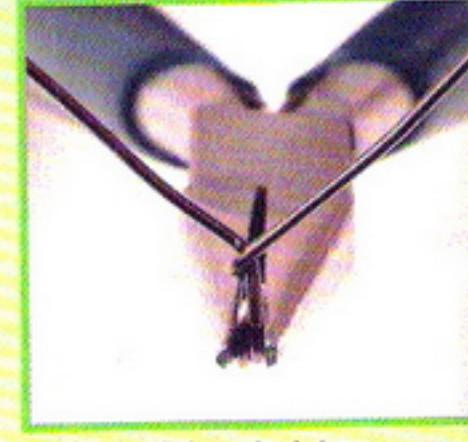
**4** To make the clasp's eye, cut a 6-in. piece of 20-gauge wire. Grasp the center of the wire with roundnose pliers, and cross the wires around one jaw to make a loop. Reposition the loop as shown, and wrap the wires around the jaw to form a second loop. Cross the wire tails below the jaw.



**7** Hold the second pair of loops with chainnose or bentnose pliers, and wrap the tails around the wires between the two loops.



**2** Use roundnose pliers to make a bend in the wires about  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. (1.6cm) from the fold.



**5** Hold both loops in chainnose pliers, and twist the tails once so the tails are perpendicular to the loops.

## materials

### necklace 17½ in. (44.5cm)

- 12 16 x 16mm flat rectangular dyed mother-of-pearl beads
- 22 9 x 9mm pressed-glass leaf beads
- 11 6mm round mosaic mother-of-pearl beads
- gunmetal-colored copper craft wire (Artistic Wire, artisticwire.com)
- 7 ft. (2.1m) 22-gauge
- 1 ft. (30cm) 20-gauge
- chainnose and roundnose pliers
- bentnose pliers (optional)
- nylon jaw pliers (optional)
- diagonal wire cutters



**1 necklace** • Cut a 2-in. (5cm) piece of 22-gauge wire. Make a loop at one end. String a leaf bead on the wire and bend the wire tail up around the bead.



**2** Put the first loop back on your round-nose pliers. Bring the wire tail around the jaw in the opposite direction of the first loop, forming a figure 8. Trim the wire under the second loop.



**3** Press the two loops together with chainnose pliers so they look like one two-wire loop. Make a total of 22 leaf dangles.



**4** Cut a 1½-in. (3.8cm) piece of 22-gauge wire. Make a plain loop (Basics) at one end. String a 6mm bead on the wire and make a plain loop at the other end. Make a total of 12 6mm bead units and 12 16mm bead units.



**5** Open the loops on the 6mm units. Attach a leaf unit and a 16mm unit to each loop. Note: Depending on the orientation of the 6mm unit's loop, you may need to attach either the leaf unit or the 16mm bead unit first. Add units until the necklace is 1½ in. short of the desired length.



**6** Open the loop on the end units and attach a clasp half to each unit. – L.A. \*

# materials

## necklace 16 in. (41cm)

- 12-15mm pink tourmaline nugget
- 2 16-in. (41cm) strands 4-7mm tourmaline chips
- 8 3mm round spacers
- 2g size 11° seed beads
- toggle clasp
- flexible beading wire, .014 or .015
- 4 crimp beads
- 2-in. (5cm) decorative head pin
- chainnose and roundnose pliers
- crimping pliers (optional)
- diagonal wire cutters

## bracelet 7 in. (18cm)

- 15-in. (38cm) strand 12-15mm tourmaline nuggets
- 12-16 4mm flat spacers
- ribbon elastic
- twisted-wire needles
- G-S Hypo Cement

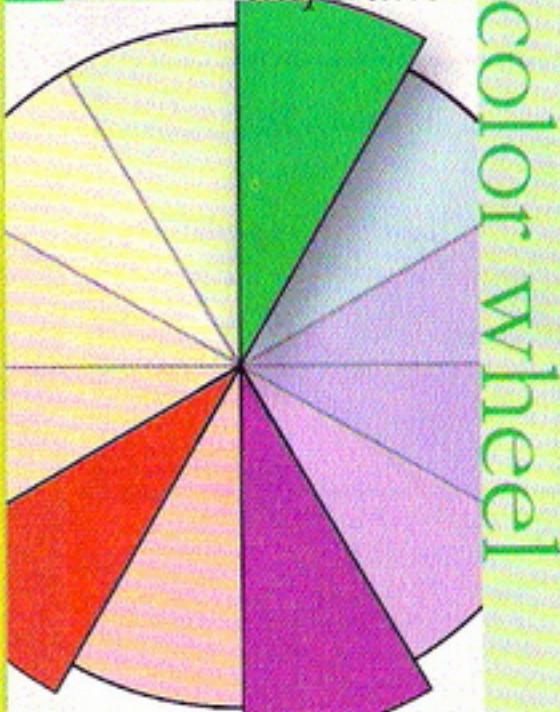
## earrings

- 10 4-7mm tourmaline chips (from necklace)
- 8 4mm flat spacers
- pair of 1-in. (2.5cm) beading hoops
- chainnose pliers
- diagonal wire cutters

## editor's tip

Before making the necklace, set aside five pairs of matching chips for the earrings.

## inspiration



## color wheel



**1 necklace** • String a pink tourmaline nugget on a decorative head pin. Make a wrapped loop (see Basics) above the bead.



**2** Determine the finished length of your necklace. (Mine is 16 in./41cm.) Add 6 in. (15cm) and cut two pieces of beading wire to that length.

On one wire, string chips interspersed with 11° seed beads until the strand is 1 in. (2.5cm) short of the desired length. End with a chip.



**3** On the other wire, center the pendant and an 11°. On each end, string chips interspersed with 11°s until the strand is 1 in. short of the desired length. End with a chip.



**4** On each end of each strand, string a round spacer, a crimp bead, a round spacer, and half the clasp. Go back through the beads just strung and tighten the wires. Check the fit, and add or remove beads if necessary. Crimp the crimp beads (Basics) and trim the excess wire.



**1 bracelet** • Determine the finished length of your bracelet, add 3 in. (7.6cm), and double that measurement. Cut a piece of ribbon elastic to that length. Thread a needle on the elastic and tape the ends together. String an alternating pattern of nuggets and spacers until the bracelet is the desired length.



**2** Tie the ends with a surgeon's knot (Basics). Glue the knot and trim the ends to 1/4 in. (3mm). Gently stretch the bracelet to pull the knot into an adjacent spacer.



**1 earrings** • String five chips and four spacers on a beading hoop. With chainnose pliers, bend the wire up 1/4 in. (6mm) from the hoop's end. Make a second earring to match the first. —N.F.



Colors opposite each other on the color wheel are called complements, and they spring to life when used together.

This is also true with the color relationship known as split complements, a trio consisting of one color plus the colors on each side of its complement.

Lucky for us, these colors occur naturally in tourmalines. Rich greens flourish next to luscious raspberry and orange tones in a range of values and intensity.

# Green

Create a necklace, bracelet, and earring ensemble with tourmaline nuggets and chips

A long-time favorite of jewelry designers, tourmaline gems come in a dramatic sweep from near-black to green to pink. Look for deep, rich colors when you purchase a strand.





**1** On four head pins, string: crystal, flat spacer, tube-shaped opal, flat spacer, crystal. Make a plain loop (see Basics) above the top bead.

On four head pins, string: crystal, bead cap, 8mm round shell, bead cap, crystal. Make a plain loop as before.

On five head pins, string three 4mm rounds. Make a plain loop as before.



**2** To make the pendant, cut a 1 1/4-in. (4.4cm) length of chain. Open the loop (Basics) on an 8mm round dangle and a tube dangle. Attach both to the same end link. Close the loops. Attach the remaining dangles to the chain links as shown.



**3** To make the necklace's bead units, cut two 3 1/4-in. (8.9cm) lengths of 22-gauge wire. On each wire, make a wrapped loop (Basics) on one end. On each, string: crystal, bead cap, 8mm round, bead cap, crystal. Make the first half of a wrapped loop above the crystals.



**4** Attach the unfinished loops on both bead units to the top chain link. Complete the wraps.

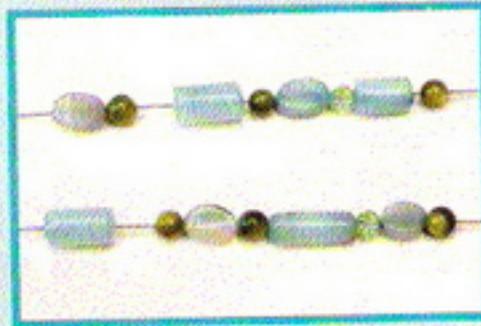


**5** Determine the finished length of your necklace. (Mine is 16 1/4 in./42.5cm). Divide that measurement in half, add 6 in. (15cm), and cut four pieces of beading wire to that length. Set two pieces aside.



**7** String two 4 x 2mm spacers over both tails and wires and slide the spacers over the folded crimp. Then string a bead cap, an 8mm round, and a bead cap. Separate the wires and string a crystal on each.

**6** String a crimp bead and the loop of a bead unit over two pieces of beading wire. Go back through the crimp bead and tighten the wire. Make a folded crimp (Basics).



**9** On one wire on each end, string: flat opal, 4mm round, tube-shaped opal, 4mm round, flat opal, crystal, tube-shaped opal, 4mm round. On the other wire on each end, string: tube-shaped opal, 4mm round, flat opal, 4mm round, tube-shaped opal, crystal, flat opal, 4mm round. Repeat until the necklace is 1 in. (2.5cm) short of the desired length.

**10** On the end of each wire, string a 3 x 2mm spacer, a crimp bead, and a spacer. Go through a loop on a 2-strand clasp and back through the beads just strung. Tighten the wires, check the fit, and add or remove an equal number of beads on each strand if necessary. Crimp the crimp beads and trim the excess wire. — Paulette Biedenbender \*

## materials

### necklace 16 1/4 in. (42.5cm)

- 16-in. (41cm) strands of the following:
  - 5 x 7mm (approximately) flat ovals, blue Peruvian opal
  - 5 x 8mm (approximately) tubes, blue Peruvian opal
  - 4mm rounds, green dyed shell
  - 8 8mm faceted rounds, green dyed jade
  - 44 4mm round crystals, chrysolite AB
  - 16 7mm bead caps
  - 8 7mm flat spacers
  - 4 4 x 2mm spacers, large-hole
  - 8 3 x 2mm spacers, large-hole
  - 2-strand toggle clasp
  - 2 in. (5cm) twisted-cable chain, 5.5mm
  - 7 in. (18cm) 22-gauge wire, half-hard
  - 13 2-in. (5cm) head pins
  - flexible beading wire, .014 or .015
  - 6 crimp beads
  - chainnose and roundnose pliers
  - crimping pliers
  - diagonal wire cutters

# Green Blue

String a two-strand gemstone necklace with a dangling centerpiece

Designers look for classic color schemes they can use again and again. This cool-color twosome taken from a fabric swatch is sure to be a contender. The cool blue essence of water pairs gracefully with the vibrance of spring's freshest greens. Not only are greens and blues neighbors on the color wheel, these two are similar in color value, attributes that lend harmony to the finished piece.

Use chain to create a dynamic centerpiece of gems, crystals, and shell beads.



fabrics

inspiration





Combine fringed yarn and glass beads to make a lively necklace and hair accessory

Blue is the most popular color in the western world, and a personal favorite as well. In these projects, blue partners with teal, green, blue-violet, and purple – the lively colors on a ceramic decanter – for an appealing palette that won't go out of style. For the dominant shades, I chose beads in deep aqua-blue and teal. For contrast, I used my strongest colors, purple and lime green, in small amounts, a trusted formula to follow for accents.

# Green Blue

Although the beads appear to be strung directly onto the yarn, they're actually on a piece of beading wire. Wrap the yarn around the wire to create the braided effect.





## materials

### both projects

- Beadalon boa yarn
- diagonal wire cutters

### necklace 16 in. (41cm)

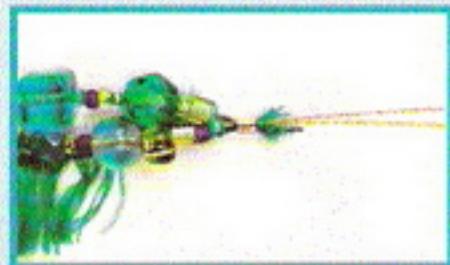
- 70-100 4-10mm glass and crystal beads, colors to match yarn
- 3g each size 8° and 11° seed beads
- 4 3mm round spacers
- 2 6-8mm bead caps
- box clasp
- flexible beading wire, .014 or .015
- 4 crimp beads
- chainnose or crimping pliers

### ponytail holder

- 15-30 4-10mm glass and crystal beads, colors to match yarn
- 1g each size 8° and 11° seed beads
- 3½-in. (9cm) ponytail clip (Rio Grande, 800-545-6566, [riogrande.com](http://riogrande.com))
- 26- or 28-gauge craft wire
- Dritz Fray Check or clear nail polish



**1 necklace** • Determine the finished length of your necklace. (Mine is 16 in./41cm.) Add 6 in. (15cm) and cut two pieces of beading wire to that length. On each wire, string assorted glass, crystal, and 8° and 11° seed beads until each strand is 1 in. (2.5cm) short of the desired length. Tape the ends.



**2** Cut a piece of boa yarn twice as long as the wire strands. Remove the tape from one end of each beaded strand. String the yarn and each beaded strand through a crimp bead. Crimp the crimp bead (see Basics). Trim the excess yarn.



**3** On the two wires, string: bead cap, round spacer, crimp bead, round spacer, and half the clasp. Go back through the beads just strung and tighten the wires. Crimp the crimp bead and trim the excess wire. Remove the tape from the other ends and re-tape the strands so the tape is flush against the last bead on each end.



**4** Wrap the yarn around each beaded strand, looping it around one strand, then the other. When you reach the last bead, remove the tape. Check the fit, and add or remove beads if necessary. String the wires and yarn through a crimp bead, crimp it, and trim the excess yarn. Attach the remaining clasp half as in step 3.



**1 ponytail holder** • Open the ponytail clip by squeezing it gently. Cut a 24-in. (61cm) piece of craft wire and a 30-in. (76cm) piece of boa yarn. Thread both through the hole at one end of the ponytail clip, leaving a 1-in. (2.5cm) tail. Twist the wire and yarn tails together and trim the excess.



**2** Wrap the yarn around the ponytail clip. Wrap the wire around the clip and string a bead. Repeat across the clip, making sure to thread the wire under protruding parts of the clip.

**3** After covering the clip with beads and yarn, twist the wire and yarn tails together. Trim the excess, apply a drop of Dritz Fray Check or nail polish to the yarn, and tuck the ends under a bead. —N.F. \*

## editor's tip

For ease in stringing boa yarn through a crimp bead, trim the yarn's fringe and apply clear nail polish or Dritz Fray Check to the end.

## inspiration

### decorative art



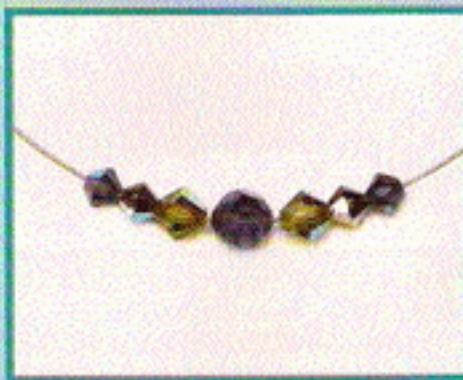
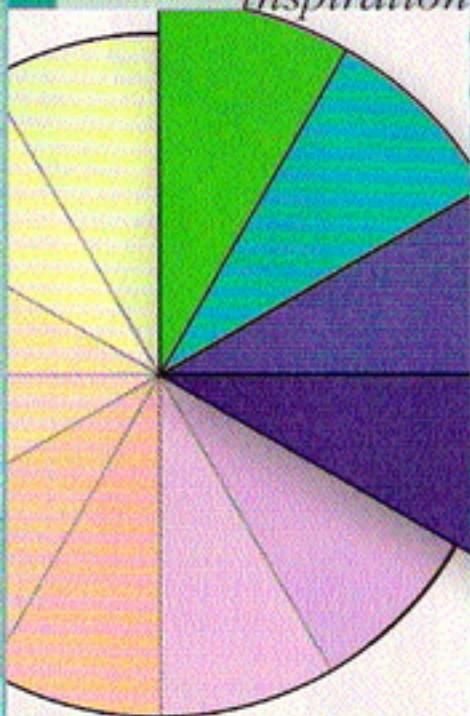
# Blue Green

Peacock feathers play a starring role in a necklace and earring ensemble

When you take your color cues from the blues and greens on a color wheel, it's hard to resist the sheer drama you'll get from adding peacock feathers to your design. Here, the feathers' saturated hues are combined with crystals and pearls in similar colors, keeping the focus on the feather while adding sparkle and texture to the finished jewelry.

*inspiration*

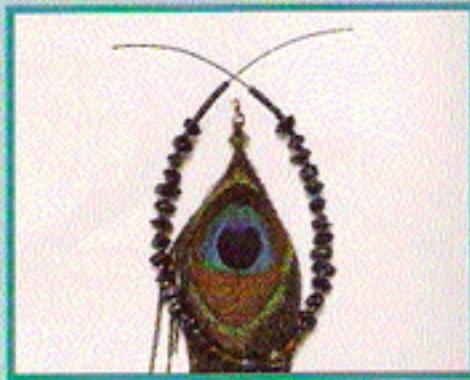
color wheel



**2** Measure the feather at its widest point and multiply that number by six. Cut a piece of 24-gauge wire to that length. Center a 6mm crystal on the wire. On each end, string a 5mm bicone, a 4mm bicone, and another 4mm bicone.



**1 necklace** • Trim the quill from a feather, leaving approximately  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. (1.3cm) at the top. String a 5mm bicone and a bead tip on the remaining quill, so the loop of the bead tip is at the top. Apply a dot of glue inside the bead tip and close it.



**3** On each end, string an alternating pattern of 11° seed beads and keshi pearls, leaving 2 in. (5cm) of exposed wire. String  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. of 11°s on each end. Place the wire frame around the feather in an oval shape. Add or remove beads from each end, as desired.



There's nothing shy about a necklace and earrings that feature the sumptuous colors and dramatic flair of peacock feathers.

# materials

## both projects

- chainnose and roundnose pliers
- diagonal wire cutters
- E6000 adhesive

## necklace 15 in. (38cm)

- peacock feather
- 2 16-in. (41cm) strands 4-5mm keshi pearls, dark blue
- 2g size 11° seed or cylinder beads, gunmetal iris
- 6mm round crystal, Montana AB
- 3 5mm bicone crystals, olive
- 14-18 4mm bicone crystals, topaz and smoked topaz AB
- box clasp
- 9-18 in. (23-46cm) 24-gauge wire, half-hard
- flexible beading wire, .014 or .015
- 2 crimp beads
- 3 5mm jump rings
- bead tip, clamshell style
- crimping pliers (optional)

## earrings

- 2 peacock feathers
- 40-60 keshi pearls, left over from necklace, dark blue
- 2g size 11° seed or cylinder beads, gunmetal iris
- 2 6mm round crystals, Montana AB
- 6 5mm bicone crystals, olive
- 8 4mm bicone crystals, 4 smoked topaz AB and 4 Montana AB
- 12-24 in. (30-61cm) 24-gauge wire, half-hard
- 2 bead tips, clamshell style
- pair of earring wires



**4** Make a wrapped loop (see Basics) at one end, bending it down as shown. Leave  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. (3mm) of exposed wire on the stem. Make the first half of a wrapped loop on the other end, bending it upward.



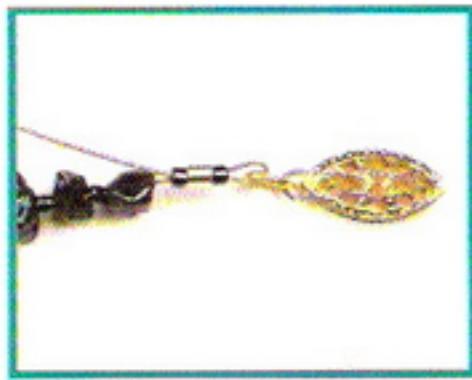
**5** Wrap the tail of the top loop around the stem of the bottom loop, and the tail of the bottom around the stem of the top. Trim the excess wire.



**6** Close the bead tip's loop around the bottom loop. Determine the finished length of your necklace. (Mine is 15 in./38cm.) Add 6 in. (15cm) and cut a piece of flexible beading wire to that length. Open a 5mm jump ring (Basics) and connect it to the pendant's top loop. Close the jump ring. Center an 11° and the pendant on the wire. On each end, string a 4mm bicone and an 11°.



**7** On each end, string an alternating pattern of five pearls and five 11°s, followed by a 4mm bicone. Then string an alternating pattern of seven pearls and seven 11°s and a 4mm bicone. Continue the pattern, increasing to nine pearls and 11°s and a 4mm bicone, then to eleven pearls, and so on, until the necklace is 1 in. (2.5cm) short of the desired length. End with an 11°.



**8** On one end, string a crimp bead, an 11°, and a jump ring with half of the clasp. Go back through the last beads strung. Repeat on the other end. Tighten the wires, check the fit, and add or remove an equal number of beads from each end if necessary. Crimp the crimp beads (Basics) and trim the excess wire.



**1** **earrings** • Follow steps 1-5 of the necklace. Close the bead tip's loop around the bottom loop.

**2** Open the loop on an earring wire and attach the feather pendant. Make a second earring to match the first. — J.K. \*



In Vincent van Gogh's famous color studies, he experimented with bold contrasts, and his painting *Vase with Lilacs, Daisies, and Anemones* is no exception. Here, high-key yellows create brilliant illumination when placed against a background dominated by deep blues and greens. When translating van Gogh's intense colors into jewelry, I chose crystals for their vivid colors and, of course, for the way they turn on the lights.

*Vase with Lilacs, Daisies, and Anemones* by Vincent van Gogh, 1887. Oil on canvas.

A necklace and earrings with faceted crystals recall the light-infused palette of a van Gogh painting

# Blue



fine art  
inspiration





**1 necklace** • String crystals on 1 head pins as follows and make a plain loop (see Basics) above the end bead:

- 4mm blue cube, 6mm blue bicone, 3mm blue bicone (make one unit)
- 6mm blue cube, purple rondelle, 3mm blue bicone (make one unit)
- 6mm green, 3mm blue (make one unit)
- 3mm yellow, 3mm blue (make six units)
- 3mm green, 3mm blue (make four units)
- 4mm green, 3mm blue (make two units)



**2** Cut a 1½-in. (4.4cm) piece of wire and make a plain loop at one end. String: end link of a seven-link piece of cable chain, 3mm blue bicone, 6mm blue cube, 4mm dark blue bicone, blue bicone/cube unit, 4mm dark blue bicone, 6mm blue cube, 3mm blue bicone, seven-link piece of chain. Make a plain loop next to the chain.



**3** Cut a 1½-in. (3.8cm) piece of wire and make a plain loop at one end. String: 3mm blue bicone, 4mm blue cube, 4mm dark blue bicone, purple rondelle/cube unit, 4mm dark blue bicone, 4mm blue cube, 3mm blue bicone. Make a loop next to the end bead.



**4** Open the loops (Basics) on the component made in step 3 and attach each end chain link on the component made in step 2. Attach an 11-link chain to each loop. Close the loops.



**5** Connect the end links of the 11-link chains with a 6mm green/3mm blue unit.

**6** Cut two 8-in. (20cm) pieces of chain. Open the loops on the upper component and attach an end link of each chain to each loop. Close the loops.



**7** Skip a link next to the bottom unit and connect a 3mm yellow/blue unit. Skip a link and connect a 3mm green/blue unit. Repeat, connecting five units to each 11-link chain, alternating colors as shown.

**8** Connect a 4mm green/3mm blue unit to each loop on the upper component.



**9** Connect a jump ring to the end of one 8-in. chain and the lobster claw clasp to the other.

## materials

### both projects

- roundnose pliers
- chainnose pliers
- diagonal wire cutters
- necklace 17 in. (43cm)**
- 6mm faceted rondelle crystal, purple
- 6mm bicone crystals, green, blue
- 4mm bicone crystals, 4 dark blue, 2 green
- 3mm bicone crystals, 19 blue, 6 yellow, 4 green
- cube crystals, diagonal hole, 3 6mm blue, 3 4mm blue
- 4 in. (10cm) 22-gauge wire
- 20 in. (51cm) 3.5mm cable chain
- 15 1-in. (2.5cm) head pins
- lobster claw clasp with jump ring

### earrings

- 6mm bicone crystals, 2 green, 2 purple
- 4 4mm cube crystals, diagonal hole, blue
- 3mm bicone crystals, 36 blue, 16 green, 16 yellow
- 2 earring findings
- 2 in. (5cm) 22-gauge wire
- 2 in. (5cm) 3.5mm cable chain
- 5 in. (13cm) 2mm cable chain
- 36 1-in. (2.5cm) head pins



**1** **earrings** • String bicone crystals on head pins as follows and make a plain loop (see Basics) above the end bead:

- 3mm green, 3mm blue (make 16 units)
- 3mm yellow, 3mm blue (make 16 units)
- 6mm green, 3mm blue (make two units)
- 6mm purple, 3mm blue (make two units)



**2** Cut a 1-in. (2.5cm) piece of wire. Make a plain loop at one end, string a 4mm cube, a four-link piece of 2mm cable chain, and a 4mm cube. Make a second loop in the same plane as the first. Open the loops (Basics) and connect a 15-link piece of 2mm cable chain to each one. Don't close the loops.

**3** Cut a nine-link piece of 3.5mm cable chain and attach an end link to each loop. Close the loops. Open the loop on a 6mm purple/3mm blue unit and connect it to the short center chain. Close the loop.

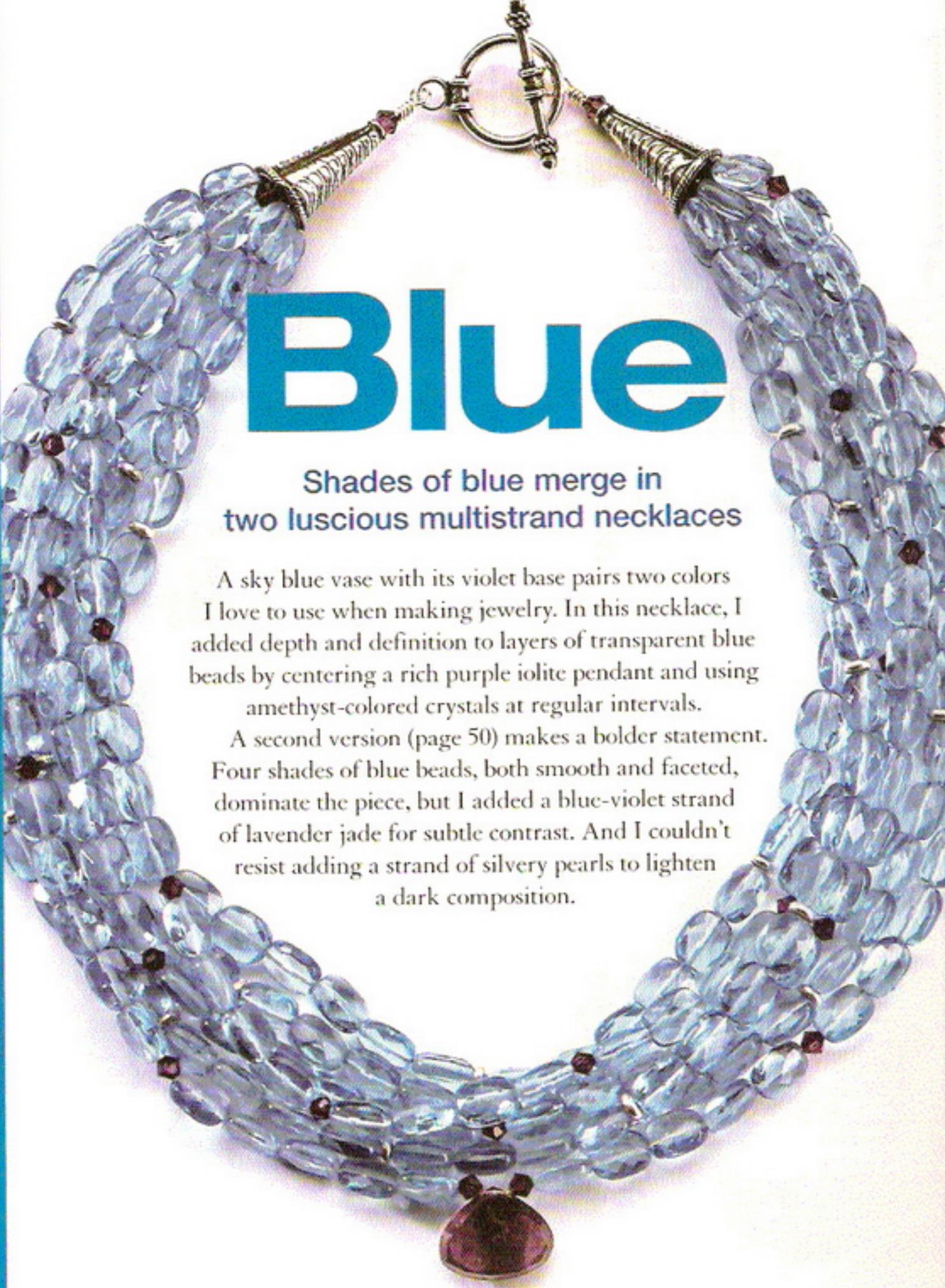


**4** Connect the end links of the long chains with a 6mm green/3mm blue unit.

**5** Connect 3mm units to every other chain link on each side (a total of 14) as in step 7 of the necklace.

**6** Connect a 3mm green/blue unit to the loops made in step 2.

**7** Slide an earring wire into the middle chain link. Make a second earring to match the first. —C.P. \*



# Blue

**Shades of blue merge in  
two luscious multistrand necklaces**

A sky blue vase with its violet base pairs two colors I love to use when making jewelry. In this necklace, I added depth and definition to layers of transparent blue beads by centering a rich purple iolite pendant and using amethyst-colored crystals at regular intervals.

A second version (page 50) makes a bolder statement. Four shades of blue beads, both smooth and faceted, dominate the piece, but I added a blue-violet strand of lavender jade for subtle contrast. And I couldn't resist adding a strand of silvery pearls to lighten a dark composition.



### 1 necklace with pendant

1 Determine the finished length of the shortest strand. (Mine is 15 in./38cm.) Add 6 in. (15cm) and cut a piece of beading wire to that length. Cut five more strands, each 1 in. (2.5cm) longer than the previous one. On the shortest wire, center a spacer. String six rectangles and a spacer on each end. Repeat until the strand is 2 in. (5cm) short of the desired length.



### 2 String the next four strands until each

is 2 in. short of the desired length: Strand 2: String four rectangles and a crystal. Repeat.

Strand 3: String four rectangles and a spacer. Repeat.

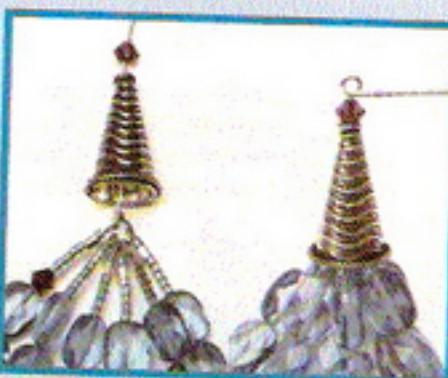
Strand 4: Center a crystal. String six rectangles and a crystal on each end. Repeat.

Strand 5: Center a spacer. String five rectangles and a spacer on each end. Repeat.



### 3 Center the briolette on the longest

strand. String a crystal and five rectangles on each end. Repeat until the strand is 2 in. short of the desired length.



### 4 Cut two 4-in. (10cm) pieces of 22-gauge wire. At one end of each wire, make a wrapped loop (see Basics) slightly larger than the hole at the small end of the cone.

On one end of each strand, string approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. (1.3cm) of 11° seed beads, a crimp bead, an 11°, and the wire loop. Go back through the 11°, the crimp bead, and two 11°s. Tighten the wire. Repeat at the other end of the necklace. Repeat for the remaining strands.

**Keep your versions of the multi-strand necklaces at left and on p. 50 relatively short. They're designed to be worn right at the collarbone.**

### editor's tip

To extend the length of a strand or to prevent too much bulk around the cone, string one or more accent beads at each end before stringing seed beads.

5 Check the fit, allowing 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  in. (3.8cm) for finishing. Add or remove an equal number of beads from each end, if necessary. Crimp the crimp beads (Basics) and trim the excess wire.

6 On one end, string a cone and a crystal on the wire. Make the first half of a wrapped loop above the crystal. Repeat at the other end.



7 On each end, attach half the clasp to the loop. Complete the wraps.

decorative art *inspiration*





### 1 mixed-bead necklace \*

Determine the finished length of the shortest strand. (Mine is 13 1/2 in./34.3cm.) Add 6 in. (15cm) and cut a piece of beading wire to that length. Cut five more strands, each 1 in. (2.5cm) longer than the previous one.

2 String beads on each wire until each one is 2 in. (5cm) short of the desired length. Finish the necklace as in steps 4-8 of the pendant necklace. - N.F. \*

## materials

### both necklaces

- flexible beading wire, .014 or .015
- chainnose and roundnose pliers
- diagonal wire cutters
- crimping pliers (optional)

### pendant necklace 15 in. (38cm)

- iolite briolette, side drilled, approximately 14 x 17mm
- 6 16-in. (41cm) strands 7 x 9mm faceted blue glass rectangles (Eclectica, 262-641-0910)
- 30-40 4mm bicone crystals, amethyst

- 1g size 11° seed beads, color to match faceted glass rectangles
- 25-35 flat 3-4mm spacers
- 2 cones, approximately 12 x 19mm
- toggle clasp
- 8 in. (20cm) 22-gauge wire
- 12 crimp beads

### mixed bead necklace

#### 13 1/2 in. (34cm)

- 16-in. strand each of the following:
  - 10mm round beads, blueberry quartz
  - 8mm round beads, blue shell

6mm round pearls, silver  
5-6mm button-shaped pearls, dark blue

4mm round beads, lavender jade  
3-4mm rondelles, chalcedony

- 2 4mm crystals
- 1g size 11° seed beads
- 2 cones, approximately 12 x 19mm
- toggle clasp
- 8 in. 22-gauge wire
- 12 crimp beads



Enjoy this beaded chain in one of several necklace styles or as a stylish belt.

# Blue

**A versatile necklace doubles as a chain belt**

Vivid splashes of red, orange, yellow, and aqua dance across the predominantly dark blue hues of this whimsical fabric. For this jewelry, I opted for gold chain and pearls in place of the fabric's yellow and orange, and worked with beads in red, pink, aqua, and blue. Although shown on page 53 on white trousers, my piece will also stand out against a dark blue shirt or indigo jeans.

*inspiration*  
fabric





full-length necklace



2-strand necklace

## materials

### both projects

- chainnose and roundnose pliers
- diagonal wire cutters

### belt/necklace 36 in. (.9m)

- 20–30 8mm round crystals, in two colors
- 8–10 8mm faceted round gemstones beads, in two colors
- 7–10 8mm round pearls
- 35–50 3–4mm flat spacers
- 40–60 in. (1–1.5m) cable or long-and-short chain, 4–6mm links
- lobster claw clasp
- 40–60 1½-in. (3.8cm) head pins
- 4 or 5mm jump ring

### earrings

- 2 8mm round crystals
- 2 3–4mm flat spacers
- 1–2 in. (2.5–5cm) cable or long-and-short chain, 4–6mm links
- 2 1½-in. (3.8cm) head pins
- pair of earring wires



**1 belt/necklace** • To make the dangles, string a spacer and an 8mm bead on a head pin. Make the first half of a wrapped loop (see Basics) above the bead. Make a total of 40–50 dangles: 20–25 with crystals, 10 or more with gemstones, and 10 or more with pearls.



**2** Determine the desired finished length of your belt by wrapping a piece of chain around your waist. Add 8–10 in. (20–25cm) for the extender and cut the chain to that length. (My belt is 36 in./.9m, plus an 8-in. extender.) Attach the clasp to the chain's end link with a jump ring (Basics).



**3** Attach a crystal dangle to the third or fourth chain link from the clasp. Finish the wraps. Attach a dangle to every third or fourth link, alternating gemstone and pearl dangles with crystal dangles, until the beaded section fits around your waist. Do not attach dangles to the remaining chain (the extender).



**4** Check the fit and trim the chain if the extender is too long. Attach a dangle to the end link and finish the wraps.

### editor's tip

To make the belt wearable as a choker, determine the finished length by wrapping the chain around your neck three times. Then wrap the chain around your waist or hips. The chain should fit comfortably, with 8–10 in. left over for an extender.



**1** **earrings** • Make a dangle as in step 1 of the necklace.

**2** Cut a  $\frac{1}{2}$ –1-in. (1.3–2.5cm) piece of chain. Attach a dangle to an end link and finish the wraps.



**3** Open the loop on an earring wire (Basics) and attach the dangle. Close the loop. Make a second earring to match the first. —N.F. \*



**fashionable belt**